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Letter dated 11 August 2009 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a report on the work of the Security Council during the presidency of Turkey in June 2009 (see annex). The document was prepared under my responsibility, following consultations with other members of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Fazlı **Çorman**
Minister Counsellor
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 11 August 2009 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of Turkey (June 2009)

Introduction

During the month of June 2009, under the presidency of Ambassador Baki Ilkin, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations, the Security Council held 11 consultations of the whole and 21 formal meetings, including two private meetings, one private debate and 18 public meetings.

In June 2009, the Council adopted three resolutions, two presidential statements and four statements to the press.

Africa

Sudan

On 5 June, the Security Council received its biannual briefing from the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Luis Moreno-Ocampo, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1593 (2005). In his briefing, the Prosecutor provided information to the Council on the activities of his Office with regard to Darfur and summarized his planned activities for the next six months. The Prosecutor emphasized that all States parties to the Court's founding Rome Statute have a responsibility to arrest and surrender any indictee travelling in their territory, noting also that, while non-signatories to the Statute have no such legal obligation, the Council in resolution 1593 (2005) urged them to cooperate fully with the Court. The Prosecutor further informed the Council that, in the coming six months, and in accordance with its mandate, the Office of the Prosecutor would continue monitoring ongoing crimes, galvanizing efforts to arrest fugitives and building cooperation with regional organizations. The briefing was followed by a private debate on the matter, during which Council members were able to express their positions on this issue.

On 11 June, at a formal meeting, the Council was briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, John Holmes, on his recent trip to the Sudan. The Under-Secretary-General, who described the expulsion of humanitarian aid workers from the Sudan on 4 March as unjustified, explained that through the efforts of the humanitarian community, working together with the Government of the Sudan, the most critical lifesaving gaps had been significantly narrowed and a humanitarian crisis had been prevented. Nonetheless, he noted that a full return of humanitarian capability was still needed in Darfur. He further stated that following the decision of 4 March, the Government of the Sudan had taken some important steps to rebuild cooperation with the humanitarian community and had reaffirmed existing agreements. He also emphasized that, in order to meet the requirements of the new situation throughout the Sudan, the financing needs for humanitarian assistance must be reworked. He called on both the Government and the donor community for accelerated help. He

also mentioned the situation in the south of the Sudan as a source of major concern. The briefing was followed by informal consultations.

On 19 June, during consultations of the whole, the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) presented to Council members the 90-day report on the work of the Committee.

Sierra Leone

On 8 June, at a formal meeting, the Executive Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone (UNIPSIL), Michael von der Schulenburg, briefed the Council on developments in Sierra Leone and the activities of UNIPSIL. While noting that the democratic gains in Sierra Leone remained fragile, the Executive Representative praised the political leadership of Sierra Leone for an agreement that he said had kept recent political violence from spiralling out of control. The Executive Representative also called for international support for the United Nations unified post-conflict strategy in the country. The Chair of the Sierra Leone configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, Ambassador John McNee of Canada, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Sierra Leone, Zainab Hawa Bangura, also addressed the Council. Following the briefings, all Council members took the floor and shared their views on the recent developments and the way forward.

Burundi

On 9 June, at a formal meeting, the Council heard briefings concerning the situation in Burundi by the Executive Representative of the Secretary-General and head of the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi (BINUB), Youssef Mahmoud; Ambassador Per Örnéus of Sweden on behalf of Ambassador Anders Lidén, Chair of the Burundi configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission; and the Director-General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Burundi, Ambassador Adolphe Nahayo. The briefings were followed by closed consultations among the members of the Council, at the end of which the President read a statement to the press, commending the advances in the Burundian peace process; urging all the Burundian parties, with the support of regional and international partners, to pursue their efforts to address the remaining challenges, in particular the completion of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process; encouraging all stakeholders to prepare the ground for peaceful, free and fair elections in 2010; encouraging the Government to take further steps regarding democratic governance, human rights, social and economic development, justice and security reforms; and welcoming the engagement of the Peacebuilding Commission in assisting Burundi to lay the foundations of its long-term development.

Somalia

On 19 June, following informal consultations, the Council issued a statement to the press strongly condemning the suicide bomb attack in Beledweyne on 18 June 2009, which killed the Somali Minister of Security, Omar Hashi Aden, along with community leaders and other innocent Somalis. The members of the Council also reiterated their continued and full support to the Transitional Federal Government, the Djibouti process and the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

Central African Republic

On 22 June, at a formal meeting, the Council heard briefings on the situation in the Central African Republic by the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, B. Lynn Pascoe, the Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, Ambassador Jan Grauls of Belgium, and the Permanent Representative of the Central African Republic to the United Nations. The Under-Secretary-General stated that the best way to address the multifaceted problems besetting the Central African Republic was through the implementation of the recently adopted Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding. He further emphasized that, while there were important efforts to implement the recommendations of the 2008 National Political Dialogue, activities of violent rebels were undermining the peacebuilding framework and bringing about increased insecurity. He introduced the newly appointed Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA), Sahle-Work Zewde, to the Council. During the closed consultations that followed, the Council members spoke in support of the transformation of BONUCA into an Integrated Peacebuilding Office (BINUCA).

Guinea-Bissau

On 9 June, following the assassination of Baciro Dabo, one of the candidates in the upcoming presidential elections in Guinea-Bissau, and Helder Proença, a former Minister of Defence, the Council issued a statement to the press condemning the killings, expressing deep concern over the resurgence of political violence and calling on the Government of Guinea-Bissau to bring to justice those responsible for these violent acts.

On 23 June, at a formal meeting, the Council heard briefings from the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and head of the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS), Joseph Mutaboba, and the Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, Ambassador Luiza Viotti of Brazil, on the developments in that country. Emphasizing that the challenges in Guinea-Bissau were enormous, the Special Representative stated that, although the Government and the people of the country had the primary responsibility to address those challenges, the international community should also stay engaged and provide the much-needed support for critical reforms in the justice, public administration, defence and security sectors and, most urgently, for the conduct of peaceful presidential elections. Following the briefings, Council members exchanged views on this issue in closed consultations.

On 26 June, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 1876 (2009), by which it extended the mandate of UNOGBIS until 31 December 2009 and requested the Secretary-General to establish a United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS) to succeed UNOGBIS, for an initial period of 12 months, beginning on 1 January 2010.

Liberia

On 25 June, the Council held closed consultations regarding the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) on the basis of the special report of the Secretary-General (S/2009/299). Following a briefing by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, members of the Council exchanged views on

developments in Liberia, the envisaged phased drawdown of UNMIL and the approach outlined by the Secretary-General in his report.

During the same consultations, the Acting Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) presented to the Council his 90-day report on the activities of the Committee and the Panel of Experts.

Côte d'Ivoire

On 25 June, in closed consultations, the Council heard a briefing from the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Alain Le Roy, on his visit to Côte d'Ivoire with a view to taking stock of progress made in the Ivorian peace process. He stated, inter alia, that all national and international stakeholders whom he consulted had reiterated their commitment to hold elections on 29 November 2009 and assured him that the remaining tasks under the reunification agenda would not pose obstacles to meeting the election date.

Asia

Iraq

On 18 June, at a public meeting chaired by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkey, Ahmet Davutoğlu, the Council discussed the situation in Iraq and reviewed the activities of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) on the basis of the Secretary-General's quarterly report. In his opening remarks, the Minister welcomed the progress made by the Iraqis in several key areas, acknowledged the remaining challenges and the need to tackle them with a sense of purpose and determination, and reiterated the commitment of the Council to support Iraq's quest for peace, security and prosperity.

In his last briefing to the Council as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, Staffan de Mistura gave a detailed account of the recent developments in the country, stressing the improvements in the security situation, as well as the continued need to work towards national reconciliation. He also recounted the activities of UNAMI in various fields, with a particular emphasis on its study regarding the disputed internal administrative boundaries and the Mission's continued assistance to the Iraqi people and Government in preparation for the upcoming elections.

The Council members all spoke in support of the activities of UNAMI in Iraq in line with its mandate. While welcoming the security improvements, many members urged Iraq to expeditiously take the necessary steps to make this positive trend irreversible, including through an inclusive dialogue and cooperation leading to national reconciliation. In this regard, the need to find a consensual solution to the issue of disputed internal administrative boundaries, including the status of Kirkuk, and the importance of reaching agreement on some key pieces of legislation, including the hydro-carbon resources and income-sharing laws, as well as the necessity to continue fighting against extremism and terrorism, were also underlined.

At the end of the meeting, in which the Permanent Representative of Iraq also participated, the Council adopted a presidential statement (S/PRST/2009/17), in which it reaffirmed its commitment to Iraq's independence, sovereignty, unity and

territorial integrity; emphasized the importance of the stability and security of Iraq for its people, the region and the international community; commended the important efforts made by the Government of Iraq to strengthen democracy; and reaffirmed its full support for UNAMI in advising, supporting and assisting the Iraqi people and Government to strengthen democratic institutions, advance inclusive political dialogue and national reconciliation and, among other tasks, facilitate regional dialogue.

United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

On 19 June, the Council held a private meeting with troop-contributing countries to the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF), at which they were briefed about recent developments relevant to the mandate of UNDOF. Later that day, during closed consultations, members of the Council heard a briefing by the Director of the Asia and Middle East Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, Wolfgang Weisbrod-Weber, on the activities of UNDOF. After the briefing, all Member States expressed support for UNDOF and for the goal of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

On 23 June, the Council adopted resolution 1875 (2009), by which it extended the mandate of UNDOF for a period of six months, together with the accompanying presidential statement (S/PRST/2008/18).

United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia

On 19 June, in closed consultations, the members of the Council heard a briefing on the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the Centre, Miroslav Jenca. Following an exchange of views among the members, the President of the Council read a statement to the press, welcoming the efforts of the Centre in addressing regional issues of common concern and reaffirming the Council's support to the Centre to facilitate dialogue and assist the Governments of Central Asia in addressing multiple challenges facing the region.

The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

On 23 June, at a formal meeting, the Council heard a briefing on the situation in the Middle East by the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Robert Serry. He reported to the Council that international diplomatic efforts were under way to reinvigorate the peace process for a two-State solution, and underlined the importance of reactivating the regional tracks alongside a rejuvenated Israeli-Palestinian track. He also emphasized the negative repercussions of the unresolved crisis in Gaza on efforts to advance the peace process, and also expressed concern regarding continuing illegal settlement construction across the West Bank and about inadequate enforcement of the rule of law against violent settlers. The Special Coordinator also stressed the need for Palestinian reconciliation and reunification, and noted continuing efforts to prevent the resupply of illicit weapons to militants in Gaza. With regard to Lebanon, he noted that the parliamentary elections of 7 June were held in an atmosphere of calm and that a climate of dialogue and cooperation had prevailed in Lebanon since then. During the consultations of the whole that followed, many Council members stressed the importance of the vision of two States, and called on the parties to fulfil their obligations emanating from the road

map and to avoid taking steps that might prejudge the final outcome of the negotiations. The need for Palestinian unity was also widely emphasized, as was the hope that a government would soon be formed in Lebanon.

Afghanistan

On 30 June, at a formal meeting, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan, Kai Eide, on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security. Stressing the crucial importance of the presidential and provincial elections to be held in August, the Special Representative said that, if managed well, the elections could become a turning point in efforts to end the conflict in Afghanistan. While underlining the emergence of some positive elements such as increased emphasis on civilian efforts, a focus on sub-national governance and the better alignment of international efforts, he also said that there still remain daunting challenges to be tackled and that the ongoing violence in particular seriously undermines the prospects for progress. The members of the Council stressed the importance of the upcoming elections in achieving security and stability in the country and pledged to work closely with the United Nations and the Government of Afghanistan. Representatives of Afghanistan and a number of Member States also participated in the debate.

Sri Lanka

On 5 June, the Council held an informal interactive discussion on Sri Lanka to hear a briefing by the Secretary-General regarding his recent visit to that country. The Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka participated in the discussion. In his briefing the Secretary-General welcomed the end of the 25-year-long struggle of the Government of Sri Lanka against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, which is recognized as a terrorist organization by many members of the Council, and shared his observations on the possible way ahead to address the humanitarian and political situation in the country, stressing in particular the needs of the internally displaced persons. The members of the Council expressed their support for the efforts of the United Nations and the Secretary-General's recommendations.

Europe

Georgia

On 12 June, the Council held a private meeting with countries contributing troops to UNOMIG, during which the participants heard a briefing by the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Edmond Mulet, on the latest developments in Georgia and the activities of the United Nations Mission.

On 15 June, the Council held two rounds of closed consultations to exchange views on a draft resolution, submitted by Austria, Croatia, France, Germany, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, seeking to extend by two weeks the mandate of UNOMIG which was to expire on the same day. The Council then proceeded to vote on the draft resolution, which received 10 votes in favour, 1 against (Russian Federation) and 4 abstentions (China, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Uganda, Viet Nam), and was not adopted.

Kosovo

On 17 June, the Council held a public meeting to address the Secretary-General's latest report covering the activities of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK). In his briefing to the Council, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Lamberto Zannier, said that the United Nations remains uniquely situated to play a useful role in Kosovo, by facilitating the resolution of problems as an intermediary between parties. He also said that, as the three-phased reconfiguration of UNMIK is winding up, the Mission is now progressively shifting its focus towards an increasingly diplomatic and political role aimed at facilitating dialogue and fostering minority rights. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Serbia, Vuk Jeremic, and Skender Hyseni of Kosovo also participated in the meeting.

Other matters

Non-proliferation/Islamic Republic of Iran

On 15 June, at a formal meeting, the Permanent Representative of Japan, Ambassador Yukio Takasu, in his capacity as Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to 1737 (2006), presented to the Council the tenth quarterly report of the Committee, covering the period from 11 March to 15 June 2009. The report mentioned the Committee's request for information from two Member States regarding a transfer of materiel that constituted a violation of paragraph 5 of resolution 1747 (2007). The members of the Council who spoke after the presentation of the report underlined the importance of implementing resolutions 1737 (2006), 1747 (2007) and 1803 (2008) and ensuring that the Committee responded effectively to the violation of resolution 1747 (2007).

Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea

On 10 June, in closed consultations, the United States submitted a draft resolution regarding the nuclear test and the missile launches carried out by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 25 May 2009 in violation of resolutions 1695 (2006) and 1718 (2006). The draft resolution was co-sponsored by France, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the United Kingdom.

On 12 June, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 1874 (2009), by which it condemned in the strongest terms the nuclear test conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 25 May 2009 and demanded that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea not conduct any further nuclear test or any launch using ballistic missile technology. By the resolution the Council also introduced financial measures and new measures of inspecting cargo suspected of containing proscribed goods; imposed additional restrictions on the supply of arms and related materiel to and from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; created a Panel of Experts to help to monitor and improve implementation of the measures; and requested the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006) to adjust the measures imposed by paragraph 8 of resolution 1718 (2006) and resolution 1874 (2009), including through the designation of individuals, entities and goods.

Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts

On 11 June, in closed consultations, the Council conducted an interim review of the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, pursuant to resolution 1805 (2008). The Acting Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee presented the report of the Committee to that effect and the Director of the Executive Directorate, Mike Smith, also briefed the Council. The members of the Council expressed their appreciation for the valuable work undertaken by the Executive Directorate since March 2008 and supported the content of the aforementioned report. Following the meeting, the President of the Council made brief oral remarks to the press, reaffirming the grave threat posed by terrorism, stressing the Council's commitment to fighting this scourge, underlining the importance of coordination and cooperation among the three relevant subsidiary bodies of the Council (Counter-Terrorism Committee, Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1540 (2004)) and appreciating the Executive Directorate's contribution to the Counter-Terrorism Committee in monitoring and promoting the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005).

Protection of civilians

On 26 June, the Council held an open debate to discuss the Secretary-General's report on the protection of civilians in armed conflict (S/2009/277). The Council first heard a briefing by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, who gave a detailed account of the sufferings of millions of civilians trapped in armed conflict or forced into flight. He said that, despite certain progress in the past 10 years, particularly with respect to the Council's involvement, the situation on the ground remained largely unchanged, with civilians continuing to bear the brunt of the armed conflicts, and that much greater efforts were required to enhance compliance with the applicable laws and accountability on the part of those who failed to comply. During the ensuing debate, in which more than 40 delegations participated, speakers stressed the need for all parties to conflict to respect international humanitarian law and provide safe and unhindered access for humanitarian aid.

United Nations peacekeeping operations

On 29 June, the Council held a thematic debate on the reform of the United Nations peacekeeping operations, with the participation of major troop-, police- and finance-contributing countries, including the European Union and the African Union. The Council first heard briefings by the Under-Secretaries-General for Peacekeeping Operations and Field Support, Alain Le Roy and Susana Malcorra, on their joint review of the United Nations peacekeeping system and its expected outcome, in the form of a non-paper entitled "New Horizon".

The ensuing debate, during which 35 delegations spoke, revealed a broad consensus among the Member States on many issues concerning the United Nations peacekeeping mechanisms, and underlined the strong support for the reform initiatives. All speakers acknowledged the utility of deepened discussions on all aspects of the United Nations peacekeeping system, including the political-strategic, administrative, financial and operational levels, as well as the need to strengthen cooperation among all stakeholders, in particular between the Security Council, the Secretariat and the troop/police/finance-contributing countries.

International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda

On 4 June, at a public meeting chaired by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkey, the Council called on the International Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda to continue to implement their completion strategies with maximum efficiency and to expedite the completion of all cases, without prejudice to due process and fair trial. After listening to the briefings by the Presidents and Prosecutors of the Tribunals, members of the Council also stressed the importance of the international community continuing to work towards securing the arrests of the 15 individuals who have been indicted by the Tribunals but so far remain at large. Members of the Council welcomed the progress in the work carried out by the Informal Working Group on International Tribunals concerning residual mechanism(s), and called on the Group to resolve the remaining outstanding issues in the near future.